

8 September 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion with Jan Herring on MDCI Analysis

1. Mr. Morrow and I met with Jan Herring, NIO for Science and Technology, on the afternoon of 6 September for approximately one hour. The topics of our conversation were (a) multidisciplinary counterintelligence analysis, (b) the need for such analysis, and (c) a possible organizational structure which would maximize the multi-disciplinary counterintelligence analysis effort in the Community.
2. There was general agreement among us on topics (a) and (b). We readily agreed on what MDCI analysis is and why it is needed. We also agreed that other descriptive names, e.g. all sources analysis, could be used to describe the analytical process involved in MDCI.
3. With respect to topic (c) Herring proposed the establishment of a National Center for MDCI analysis which would be attached to the office of the Attorney General, but would receive its operational direction from the DCI acting in his Community role. He argued that because the threat against the security of the US resulting from operations and activities of hostile intelligence services and governments in many instances involves American persons or organizations no comprehensive analysis could be done without full access to such information. By attaching the Center to the Attorney General's office the legal obstacles which restrict access of analysts to such information could be overcome.
4. The establishment of a study center is not a new concept in the Intelligence Community. Presumably in this instance the MDCI Analysis Center would be established by Executive Order and charged with among other tasks the responsibility for preparing the annual threat assessment. Other analytical tasks could also be assigned. Herring envisages the Center consisting of 20-30 top quality analysts drawn from the Intelligence Community on a rotational basis. Finally, the Center, as Herring envisages it, would also have the authority to task components of the Community for the collection of specific intelligence related to subject matters under analysis.
5. Both Mr. Morrow and I agreed that the organizational structure proposed by Herring has a number of attractive features, e.g. access to all sources of intelligence, a degree of independence and thus objectivity not necessarily enjoyed by all analysts today and a position in the bureaucratic hierarchy sufficient to command attention. At the same time, we both recognize the difficulties in getting the Community to accept the concept voluntarily.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

6. Herring will be available again on or about the 25th of September. Mr. Morrow and I recommend that the entire Commission set aside time to listen to and question Herring in a full session. We need to know a lot more about what type of subjects the Center would be tasked to analyze. How to avoid duplication of the analytical efforts. What data base would be required, etc.



25X1

cc: Mr. Bross
Mr. Cregar
Mr. Morrow
EA/DDCI

CONFIDENTIAL